

**From:** Scott Bartz  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/27/01 10:18pm  
**Subject:** Antitrust comments

After following the case from the beginning I feel that Microsoft is getting off easy for predatory monopoly behavior. Even if they let computer makers change the opening screen and give access to some of the source code. The core issue remains the leveraging of the operating system into other markets such as browsers, streaming video, and office applications. For which Microsoft has obtained virtual monopoly by becoming the defacto standard. In many cases if you try to run some other sort of application other than Microsoft such as Netscape Navigator it either runs extremely slow or not at all depending upon the operating system on the machine. Thus you end up running Microsoft software by default which ends up limiting consumer choice in the long run. In addition giving Microsoft the ability to determine what is put on the Windows opening screen gives them an advantage when it comes to determining which companies they want to deal with when it comes to vendor relationships. The other issue is that many other products that compete with Microsoft are unable because they are not compatible with the operating system which is essentially locks them out of the market for their products. Essentially Microsoft has convinced software developers to write products designed to their defacto standard which keeps many other products from reaching the marketplace. I appreciate being able to comment on such a vital issue.

Sincerely,

Scott Bartz

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